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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, U. S. D. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Bumper Crops Make Further Gains

All-crop volume November 1 was 137 percent of the '23-32 base, up 2 points from record high indicated a month ago and 11 points above the big crop of '46. Weather ideal...harvesting losses slight...yields of most late-growing crops improved. Crops estimated larger than a month ago were corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum grain, rice, buckwheat, dry beans, potatoes, tobacco, broomcorn and cranberries. Down slightly from the October estimate were peanuts, sweetpotatoes, sugar beets, apples, pears, grapes and pecans.

Record and Near-Record Groups

Feed grains and oilseeds are record production. Foodgrains are second only to last year's record. Truck crops and fruits are well above average. Tree nuts will be 17 percent above last year and 31 percent above average.

Corn, Rice, Soybeans, Potatoes Show Gains

The record corn crop is now estimated at 3.65 billion bushels, up from the October estimate by 82 million bushels. Production last year 2.4; '37-46 average, 2.8 billion bushels. Rice estimate is up from month ago more than a million bushels. New estimate is 80.1 million bushels compared with 78.8 million October 1. Production last year, 79.3 million; average, 60.5 million. Soybeans are up from a month ago by more than 4½ million bushels--from 205.8 million to 210.5 million. Production last year, 181.4 million; average, 134.6 million.

Other Production Estimates With Comparisons

Wheat, 1,284 million bushels. Production last year, 1,365 million; average, 943 million.
Oats, 1,493 million bushels. Last year, 1,216 million; average, 1,232 million.
Barley, 317 million bushels. Last year, 279 million; average, 299 million.
Rye, 27 million bushels. Last year, 26 million; average, 37 million.
Buckwheat, 6.4 million bushels. Last year, 7.3 million; average, 7 million.
Flaxseed, 50 million bushels. Last year, 39.8 million; average, 26.8 million.
Sorghum grain, 128.4 million bushels. Last year, 95.6 million; average, 99.8 million.
Hay (all), 99 million tons. Last year, 102.5 million; average, 97.6 million.
Beans (dry edible, 100 lbs.), 19.8 million bags. Last year, 17.2 million; average, 16.7 million.
Peas (dry field, 100 lbs.), 3.5 million bags. Last year, 6.5 million; average, 5.3 million.
Cotton, 15.2 million bales. Last year, 11.9 million; average, 12 million.
Peanuts, 2.3 billion pounds. Last year, 2.2 billion; average, 1.8 billion.
Sweetpotatoes, 52.4 million bushels. Last year, 57.2 million; average, 64.9 million.
Tobacco, 1.9 billion pounds. Last year, 2.1 billion; average, 1.7 billion.
Sugarcane (sugar and seed), 6.2 million tons. Last year, 5.4 million; average, 6 million.
Sugar beets, 10 million tons. Last year, 12.5 million; average, 9.8 million.
Broomcorn, 29 thousand tons. Last year, 33 thousand; average, 43 thousand.
Hops, 50.1 million pounds. Last year, 50 million; average, 43.5 million.

Fruit Crop Estimates

Apples, 90.3 million bushels. Production last year, 113 million; average, 115 million.
Peaches, 67.5 million bushels. Production last year, 82.6 million; average, 66.7 million.
Pears, 26.2 million bushels. Production last year, 35.3 million; average, 30.2 million.
Grapes, 2.9 million tons. Production last year, 3 million; average, 2.7 million.
Cherries (12 States), 201 thousand tons. Production last year, 173 thousand tons; average, 170 thousand tons.

Apricots (3 States), 250 thousand tons. Production last year, 198 thousand; average, 240 thousand.
Cranberries (5 States), 922 thousand barrels. Production last year, 790 thousand; average, 674 thousand.
Pecans, 163 million pounds. Production last year, 118.6 million; average, 109.5 million.

Another Big Citrus Crop Expected

Citrus production is expected to be about the same as the large total last season. Oranges and lemons may be larger crops than last year; grapefruit smaller.

Feed Grains Produced 137.3 Million Tons

Production of feed grains--corn, oats, barley, and sorghum grain--estimated at 137.3 million tons will exceed the previous record in '46 by more than 13 million tons. 10-year average has been 108.5 million tons.

Food Grains, 41.2 Million Tons

Food grain production--wheat, rice, rye, and buckwheat--will total about 41.2 million tons. This compares with 43.6 million tons last year and 30.9 million average.

All Grains, 178.5 Million Tons

Production of 8 grains--4 feed and 4 food--will total about 178.5 million tons compared with 139.7 million last year and 139.3 million average.

October 1 Stocks--All Positions

Wheat	1,142,133,000 bushels
Last year	1,128,043,000 bushels
Rye.....	23,837,000 bushels
Last year	21,634,000 bushels
Corn (old)	125,925,000 bushels
Last year.....	285,594,000 bushels
Oats	1,251,838,000 bushels
Last year.....	1,039,152,000 bushels
Barley.....	296,654,000 bushels
Last year.....	246,783,000 bushels
Sorghum (old)	6,807,000 bushels
Last year.....	7,015,000 bushels
Soybeans (old).....	2,525,000 bushels
Last year.....	5,361,000 bushels
Flaxseed	43,694,000 bushels
Last year.....	33,383,000 bushels

PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND ACTUAL PRICES RECEIVED

COMMODITY AND UNIT	ACTUAL PRICE		PARITY PRICE
	Sept. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1948	Oct. 15 1948
Wheat, bu.dol.	1.97	1.98	2.20
Corn, bu.dol.	1.78	1.38	1.60
Peanuts, lb. ct.	10.4	10.4	12.0
Cotton, lb. ct.	30.94	31.07	30.88
Potatoes, bu.dol.	1.53	1.42	1.84
Hogs, 100 lb.dol.	27.30	24.60	18.10
Beef cattle, 100 lb.dol.	24.20	22.10	13.50
Veal calves, 100 lb.dol.	26.20	25.00	16.80
Lambs, 100 lb.dol.	23.40	22.10	14.60
Butterfat, lb. ct.	75.6	67.8	1/67.6
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb.dol.	2/ 4.98	4.93	1/ 4.25
Chickens, live, lb. ct.	31.9	29.9	28.4
Eggs, doz. ct.	51.4	54.7	1/62.1

1/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

2/ Revised.

Cottonseed May Exceed 6.1 Million Tons

Cottonseed production is expected to reach about 6,127,000 tons, based on experience past 5 years, ratio of cotton to seed. Cottonseed produced last year totaled 4,681,000 tons; 10-year average, 4,947,000 tons.

Feed Grain Supplies Top Previous Record

Total supply of all feed grains is about 143 million tons, largest on record. All feed concentrates, including the grains and by-product feeds, total about 166 million tons, nearly a fourth larger than last years' supplies. Total supply of corn October 1 was close to 3.7 billion bushels, exceeding the '46 supply by 270 million bushels.

Pastures, Below Average

Dry weather, which favored harvesting of crops in many sections, hindered pastures. Range pastures averaged poorest for November 1 since '39. Pasture condition for country as a whole, at 70 percent of normal, was 3 points under 10-year average. Pastures were good in some areas--excellent in the Pacific Northwest, fairly good in South Atlantic and eastern Corn Belt. Wheat pastures, poor in October, were expected to improve from recent rains in southern plains areas.

October Milk Total Smallest in 5 Years

Milk production in October, 8.77 billion pounds, was smallest for the month since '43. Continued record per cow was not enough to offset smaller number of milk cows. October production last year, 8.84 billion pounds; '37-'46 average, 8.55 billion pounds. Total production first 10 months, 100 billion pounds; last year, 103.3 billion; average, 97.5 billion.

Meat Output Continues Below Last Year Despite Faster Than Usual Seasonal Climb

Earlier than usual upward spurt in livestock slaughter was brought about by faster movement from drought-hit ranges and sale of hogs as soon as marketable. But during most of this year livestock marketings and meat supplies have been lower than last year and are likely to remain lower through the remaining two months of seasonally increasing meat supplies. Meat production under Federal inspection first week in November totaled 312 million pounds, 15 percent below the 368 million pounds same week year ago. Hogs declined only 5 percent from year earlier.

Cattle and Lambs on Feed

Cattle feeding is about same or slightly larger than last year. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into Corn Belt in October were 2 percent larger than same month last year; total of in-shipments July through October also was up by 2 percent, and except for 1946 was largest since '40. Lambs fed for winter and spring marketing are expected to be down from last year, maybe lowest in 20 years.

Eggs Close to Last Year's Production

Egg production in October was above last year in all regions except the North Atlantic. The total of 5.5 billion eggs laid was up 3 percent from October year ago and 34 percent greater than average for month. Eggs first 10 months totaled 47.9 billion, nearly up to same period last year and 15 percent above average.

Higher Egg Increases Found in Two Regions

Greatest percentage increase in egg production over the '35-'39 level is found in the West North Central Region, with the North Atlantic region a close second.

Big Broiler Increases in Southeast

Broiler production in the South Atlantic region is now about 5 times as large as in '35-'39; 3 times as large in the South Central and Western regions; between 2 and 3 times as large in the other three regions. For the country as a whole, broiler production is about 4 times larger than prewar.

Turkeys Now Produced Near Larger Centers

Larger percentages of turkeys are now coming from the North Atlantic, East North Central, South Atlantic and Western regions. Declining percentages of total numbers are coming from the South Central and West North Central regions. Specialized producers are increasing and production tends to shift to areas close to large consuming centers. Numbers raised in the South Central region have averaged below '35-'39 during the war and since; West North Central region climbed during the war and early postwar but dropped below prewar in '48.

October Turkey Prices Highest of Record

Live turkeys, mid-October averaged farmers 42.7 cents a pound, a record for the month. Compares with 34.7 cents year ago and 24 cents average. With smaller storage stocks, and fewer turkeys left on farms Jan. 1, '48 than on Jan. 1, '47, farm prices for turkeys have been higher each month of this year than a year earlier. Prices first 9 months averaged nearly 40 cents

compared to about 30 cents received last year. The 31.7 million turkeys estimated raised this year will be about 10 percent fewer than last year.

Good Prices for Chickens and Eggs; Feed \$1 Cheaper

Farmers got 54.7 cents dozen for eggs in October. Last year's record, 55.3 cents. Chickens brought 29.9 cents pound; 26.6 cents year ago. First 9 months, farmers averaged 29.2 cents pound; last year, 27.1 cents. Retail price first 8 months was 55.5 cents; same period last year, 49.5 cents. Feed, at \$3.68 per 100 pounds, is about \$1 cheaper than year ago.

October Hatchings Increase

45.7 million chicks were hatched in October, up from year ago by 17 percent, and 22 percent more than average for the month. Hatchings first 10 months this year total 1,139 million chicks, down 7 percent from same period last year.

Prices Received Continue Down; Prices Paid, Steady

Prices received by farmers dropped 13 points from mid-September to mid-October while prices paid, including interest and taxes, dropped only 1 index point. Prices of corn, meat animals and butter fat dropped sharply and were only partly offset by the increases for small grains, tobacco and truck crops. Average prices to farmers Oct. 1 were down 12 points from a year earlier and were 30 points below record high of January. Average prices farmers had to pay, including interest and taxes, were 10 index points higher than a year earlier and were still only 2 points below the record high of January, June, July and August.

October Cash Receipts Down From Year Earlier But Total First 11 Months Continues High

Farmers' cash receipts in October fell below the same month in '47 for the first time since March. October last year had set an all-time monthly high. Despite recent relative decline, cumulative total this year to date will probably be larger than for same period last year. Farmers' cash receipts from marketings first 11 months will total about \$28 billion, or 3 percent more than in same period last year...receipts from livestock and products, up about 8 percent; farm crops, down about 3 percent. But increase in receipts over last year will be more than offset by higher production costs. This means net income to farmers will be down a little from last year.

Employed Up 3 Million in 2 Years

Civilian employment in October totaled 60.1 million, down a little from the 60.3 million recorded in September but well above the 59.2 million year ago. It is up 3.1 million from the 57 million at work 2 years ago.

Farm Employment Reaches 11 Million

Number of people at work on farms Nov. 1 was highest for the date since 1940. The total of 11 million hired and farm family workers compares with 10.9 million year ago, 10.8 million in '46; and close to 10.7 million in '44 and '45. Big crops and good harvesting weather, plus late season in Pacific States account for the present large employment on farms. Prewar, Nov. '40 total was 11.2 million.

CURRENT INDEXES FOR AGRICULTURE

INDEX NUMBERS	BASE PERIOD	Oct. 1948
Prices received by farmers	1910-14= 100	277
Prices paid by farmers, interest and taxes	1910-14= 100	249
Parity ratio	1910-14= 100	111
Wholesale prices of food	1910-14= 100	276
Retail prices of food	1910-14= 100	1/ 278
Farm wage rates	1910-14= 100	440
Weekly factory earnings	1910-14= 100	2/ 483
PRODUCTION COMPARISONS	Jan.-Oct. 1947	Jan.-Oct. 1948
Milk, (Bil. lb.)	103.3	100.0
Eggs, (Bil.)	48.3	47.9
Beef, (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	3/ 5801	3/ 4713
Lamb & Mutton (Dr. wt., mil. lb.) ..	3/ 524	3/ 477
Pork & Lard (Mil. lb.)	3/ 6626	3/ 6254
All meats (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	3/ 13379	3/ 12009
1/ September figure.		
2/ Factory payroll per employed worker, August figure.		
3/ January-September.		